

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 072533
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-10 SS-15 EB-08 FAA-00
DOTE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 NEAE-00 /093 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:D M WINN:LB
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:J W TWINAM
-----075196 212056Z /70

O P 212040Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 072533

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, EAIR, MU, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS OF OMAN

REFERENCES: (A) STATE 69845 NOTAL, (B) MUSCAT 375 NOTAL,
(C) MUSCAT 366 NOTAL, (D) 77 MUSCAT 1781 NOTAL, (E) 77 STATE
299516 NOTAL, (F) 77 STATE 297322 NOTAL, (G) 77 STATE
297314 NOTAL.

1. WITH REGARD TO OMANI REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN MATTER OF
SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS, USG WISHES TO BE HELPFUL (REFS D THROUGH
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G). WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT USG SHOULD NOT PLAY DIRECT
ROLE IN MATTER BY ACTING AS INTERMEDIARY; WERE WE TO DELIVER
NOTE TO SOVIETS ON BEHALF OF OMANIS, SOVIETS WOULD ASSUME
USG INSTIGATED PROTEST, THEREBY CONSIDERABLY REDUCING ITS
EFFECTIVENESS.

2. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION:

A. OMAN COULD PRESENT NOTE DIRECTLY TO SOVIETS AT UN.
ALTHOUGH THE TWO COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE RELATIONS, OMANIS
COULD SAY THAT THEY WERE ACTING ON BASIS OF FACT THAT CIVIL
AVIATION IS AN INTERNATIONAL CONCERN, AS EVIDENCED BY BOTH
COUNTRIES; MEMBERSHIP IN ICAO.

B. OMAN COULD ASK ANOTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRY WHICH HAS

RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS, PREFERABLY ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY,
TO PRESENT PROTEST FOR OMANGOV.

FYI: IN

EFFORT TO ASSIST OMANIS, WE HAVE APPROACHED BRITISH AS
POSSIBLE INTERMEDIARIES. THEY HAVE INFORMED US THAT HMG
RECENTLY DECLINED OMANI REQUEST TO DELIVER OVERFLIGHT
PROTEST NOTE TO SOVIETS FOR REASONS SIMILAR TO OURS:
SOVIETS WOULD ASSUME THAT PARTIES OTHER THAN OMANIS
INSTIGATED PROTEST. BRITISH SUGGESTED KUWAIT TO OMANIS
AS POSSIBLE INTERMEDIARY. END FYI.

3. AMBASSADOR IS THEREFORE AUTHORIZED TO SUGGEST ALTER-
NATIVE COURSES OF ACTION OUTLINED ABOVE TO OMANIS, NOTING
THAT WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT MORE EFFECTIVE OF THE
TWO WOULD BE OMANGOV REQUEST TO NEIGHBORING ARAB STATE
HAVING RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY.

4. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT POSSIBLE SOVIET RESPONSES
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TO OMANI PROTEST. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOVIETS WOULD REFUSE
TO ACCEPT IT, NO MATTER HOW CONVEYED, ON BASIS THAT USSR
AND OMAN DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. EVEN IF SOVIETS
ACCEPT DELIVERY OF PROTEST, THEY MIGHT DENY THAT FLIGHTS
VIOLATED OMANI AIR SPACE. EVEN IF SOVIETS DENY OMANI
ALLEGATIONS, HOWEVER, OVERFLIGHTS MIGHT CEASE. IF ALL
OTHER EFFORTS FAIL, OMAN COULD PROBABLY ACHIEVE ITS
OBJECTIVE BY GOING PUBLIC.

5. REFS A THROUGH C BEING REPEATED ADDRESSEE POSTS.
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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: D M WINN

APPROVED BY: J W TWINAM

-----129349 251120Z /23

R 250800Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USINT BAGHDAD 6655

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 072533

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 072533 ACTION MUSCAT INFO ABU DHABI, DOHA,
JIDDA, KUWAIT, LONDON, MANAMA, MOSCOW, AND SANA DATED MAR 21, 1978.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE072533
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D M WINN:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780124-1103
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780341/aaaabioe.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 152661c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 69845, 78 MUSCAT 375, 78 MUSCAT 366, 77 MUSCAT 1781
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3251861
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS OF OMAN
TAGS: PEPR, EAIR, MU, UR, US
To: MUSCAT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/152661c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014